

UPTON, A. C.



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

April 17, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Arthur C. Upton
Director
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Building 31, 11A52
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Dear Arthur:

I have had a chance to go over the draft report of the director 1978["]once again and I must say that I found it excellent. I am including the one minor point that I mentioned over the telephone. Also a couple of other minor points, not so much for correction, as items for discussion when we have a chance to get closer together.

I did have one philosophical point: it seems to me that the work in basic biology is dealt with rather more superficially than most of the rest of the material in this report. I surmise this was out of some fear of technicality that might go over the heads of the audience and there is likely to be some merit in that concern. However, most of the report would require a certain amount of familiarity with the issues of cancer in order to be read intelligently; and I think the section on basic biology leaned over a bit further backward than did most of the rest of it. It would be of some interest to discuss little more fully just who is the intended audience and what feedback there has been in the past about this particular document.

Second, as an excellent presentation of the overall program of the Institute, it might be even more useful to scientific onlookers if an optional bibliography were available that could be keyed to the pages of the text. Very few people could cope with any more technical a presentation, over the very wide area of discourse of the report; but anyone who wanted to go more deeply into various

Dr. Arthur C. Upton

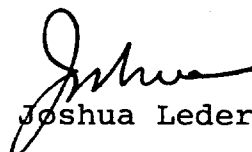
April 17, 1979

- 2 -

items could be greatly helped if there were a few appropriate source references indicated in an optional appendix.

If there are other perspective documents that someone in my own situation should be reading right now, please call them to my attention.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg

P.S. In seeking plausible candidates for positions on the panel it would be helpful to get a roster of the names of people now serving on various study sections, and so forth, for the Institute and in fact for the NIH. I don't have an up-to-date copy of what I believe is an annual issue covering that material so it might perhaps be helpful for me to ask for one.

If there is someone in your office that I ought to plug into for brief requests for information, and so forth, please let me know as it will get to be quite a nuisance trying to reach you directly on a lot of minutia. May I also ask for authorization and instructions on how to use the FTS in this work for NCI.